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EXAMINER	
CHOJNACKI, MELLISSA M	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2164	

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/020,260	BRYAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mellissa M Chojnacki	2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspond nce address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 June 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-40* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-40* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. In response to communications filed on June 8, 2004, claims 1-40 are presently pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-11, 14-17, 22-25 and 29-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zimmer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,816,878) in view of Saylor et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,501,832), in further view of

As to claim 1, Zimmer et al. teaches (a) logic kernel for receiving event information regarding a security event for which an information alert has been defined, for location the corresponding information alert and for automatically distribution the information alert to intended recipients (See abstract; column 1, lines 16-45; column 4, lines 18-46);

(b) a content database accessible by the logic kernel for storing information received from public and private computer networks, the information including the information alert (See abstract; column 1, lines 5-45, lines 59-67; column 2, lines 1-15; column 4, lines 18-46);

(e) a knowledge switch configurator including functionality for allowing an administrator to define the event information, the information alert to be associated with the event information and content to be included in the information alert the content including a directive for instruction the intended recipients regarding action to be taken in response to the security event (See abstract; column 11, lines 10-27).

Zimmer et al. does not teach a knowledge switch comprising:

(c) a profiles module for storing user profiles including information for distributing the information stored in the content database to the intended recipients; and

(d) a plurality of input/output modules for distributing the information alert to the intended recipients via defined user devices.

Saylor et al. teaches a voice code registration system and method for registering voice codes for voice pages in a voice network access provider system (See abstract), in which he teaches a knowledge switch (See column 14, lines 1-22, where the "Vcode system" contains a "knowledge switch"); and

a knowledge switch comprising:

(c) a profiles module for storing user profiles including information for distributing the information stored in the content database to the intended recipients (See column 15, lines 53-64; column 17, lines 61-67; column 18, lines 1-10); and

(d) a plurality of input/output modules for distributing the information alert to the intended recipients via defined user devices (See column 1 lines 44-50, lines 58-61; column 14, lines 10-22).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. to include a knowledge switch comprising: a profiles module for storing user profiles including information for distributing the information stored in the content database to the intended recipients; and a plurality of input/output modules for distributing the information alert to the intended recipients via defined user devices.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. by the teachings of Saylor et al. because a knowledge switch comprising: a profiles module for storing user profiles including information for distributing the information stored in the content database to the intended recipients; and a plurality of input/output modules for distributing the information alert to the intended recipients via defined user devices would help access and deliver the right information to the right person (user) because information is most useful when it is delivered to the right person at the right time (See Saylor et al., column 1, lines 24-27).

As to claim 2, Zimmer et al. as modified, teaches wherein the logic kernel includes software that is configurable by end users or administrators using the templates (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 11, lines 10-27).

As to claim 4, Zimmer et al. as modified, teaches wherein the input/output modules include a web server for sending and receiving information via the Internet (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 1, lines 10-45).

As to claim 5, Zimmer et al. as modified, teaches wherein the input/output modules include a wireless PDA server for sending information to and receiving information from a wireless PDA (See Saylor et al., column 1 lines 44-50; column 14, lines 10-22).

As to claim 6, Zimmer et al. as modified, wherein the input/output modules include a phone alert server for automatically distributing the information alert to the intended recipients via a telephone network (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 1, lines 16-45).

As to claim 7, Zimmer et al. as modified, wherein the input/output modules include a fax, email, and SMS server for sending and receiving messages in fax, email, and SMS format (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 1, lines 11-45; also see Saylor et al., column 14, lines 14-19. It is inherent that SMS server assist in managing PC's connected to a local-are-network (LAN)).

As to claim 8, Zimmer et al. as modified, event template associated with the knowledge switch configurator, the event template including customizable fields for

configuring the logic kernel to deliver information alerts to the intended recipients in response to defined event triggers wherein the event triggers are activatable by at least one of authorized individuals devices, and an inference engine programmed to predict an emergency (See Zimmer et al., See abstract; column 7, lines 29-67).

As to claim 9, Zimmer et al. as modified, wherein the event template includes a customizable field for configuring the logic kernel to deliver different information alerts to different individuals (See Zimmer et al., See abstract; column 7, lines 29-67).

As to claim 10, Zimmer et al. as modified, comprising a contact list template associated with the knowledge switch configurator, the contact list template including customizable fields for providing an individual's contact information to the logic kernel (See Zimmer et al., column 8, lines 16-24, lines 62-67; column 9, lines 1-8; also see Saylor et al., column 15, lines 53-64; column 17, lines 61-67; column 18, lines 1-10).

As to claim 11, Zimmer et al. as modified, teaches a schedule template associated with the profiles module the schedule template including an interface for allowing the intended recipients to associate the contact information with schedule information (See Zimmer et al., column 8, lines 15-24; column 28, lines 50-53).

As to claim 14, Zimmer et al., teaches (a) a plurality of first knowledge switches located at predetermined points of presence for receiving security event information, for

location corresponding information alerts and for distributing the information alerts over a computer network wherein the information alerts each include a directive for instructing intended recipients on action to be taken in response to the corresponding security event; and a plurality of second knowledge switches located at predetermined agencies, the second

Zimmer et al. does not teach a hierarchical system of knowledge switches for delivering alerts to end users, the system comprising:

(b) knowledge switches being coupled to the first the computer network, each second knowledge switches via switch being configured to receive the information alerts, apply a policy level to the information alerts, and distribute the information alerts to selected end users associated with each second knowledge switch based on the policy level.

Saylor et al. teaches a voice code registration system and method for registering voice codes for voice pages in a voice network access provider system (See abstract), in which he teaches a hierarchical system of knowledge switches (See column 14, lines 1-22) for delivering alerts to end users, the system comprising:

(b) knowledge switches being coupled to the first the computer network, each second knowledge switches via switch being configured to receive the information alerts, apply a policy level to the information alerts, and distribute the information alerts to selected end users associated with each second knowledge switch based on the policy level. (See column 14, lines1-23).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. to include a

hierarchical system of knowledge switches for delivering alerts to end users, the system comprising:

(b) knowledge switches being coupled to the first the computer network, each second knowledge switches via switch being configured to receive the information alerts, apply a policy level to the information alerts, and distribute the information alerts to selected end users associated with each second knowledge switch based on the policy level.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. by the teachings of Saylor et al. because a hierarchical system of knowledge switches for delivering alerts to end users, the system comprising:

(b) knowledge switches being coupled to the first the computer network, each second knowledge switches via switch being configured to receive the information alerts, apply a policy level to the information alerts, and distribute the information alerts to selected end users associated with each second knowledge switch based on the policy level would help access and deliver the right information to the right person (user) because information is most useful when it is delivered to the right person at the right time (See Saylor et al., column 1, lines 24-27).

As to claim 15, Zimmer et al. as modified, wherein the first and second knowledge switches include knowledge switch confiaurators for defining information alerts and individuals for receiving the information alerts (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 3, lines 60-67; column 4, lines 1-15; Saylor et al., column 14, lines 1-22).

As to claim 16, Zimmer et al. as modified, wherein the first and second knowledge switches are adapted to distribute the information alerts based on end user and agency certificate levels (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 1, lines 16-45; column 4, lines 18-46; also see Saylor et al., column 14, lines 1-22).

As to claim 17, Zimmer et al. teaches method for defining and distributing information alerts (See abstract), the method comprising:

(a) presenting a user with a plurality of templates for configuring a knowledge switch to identify event information regarding a security event to provide an information alert including user defined content, and to automatically distribute the information alert to the intended recipients in response to receiving the event information (See abstract; column 1, lines 16-45; column 4, lines 18-46);

(b) receiving, via the templates, event definition information for defining the security event and receiving content for the information alert to be delivered to the intended recipients, wherein receiving content for the information alert includes receiving a directive instructing the intended recipients on how to respond to the security event (See abstract; column 1, lines 5-45, lines 59-67; column 2, lines 1-15; column 4, lines 18-46).

Zimmer et al. does not teach receiving, via the templates, contact and schedule information for defining information alert delivery modes and corresponding times for

each of the intended recipients; and automatically distributing the information alert to the intended recipients using the information provided via the templates.

Saylor et al. teaches a voice code registration system and method for registering voice codes for voice pages in a voice network access provider system (See abstract), in which he teaches (c) receiving, via the templates, contact and schedule information for defining information alert delivery modes and corresponding times for each of the intended recipients (See column 15, lines 53-64; column 17, lines 61-67; column 18, lines 1-10); and

(d) automatically distributing the information alert to the intended recipients using the information provided via the templates (See column 1 lines 44-50, lines 58-61; column 14, lines 10-22).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. to include receiving, via the templates, contact and schedule information for defining information alert delivery modes and corresponding times for each of the intended recipients; and automatically distributing the information alert to the intended recipients using the information provided via the templates.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. by the teachings of Saylor et al. because receiving, via the templates, contact and schedule information for defining information alert delivery modes and corresponding times for each of the intended recipients; and automatically distributing the information alert to the intended recipients

using the information provided via the templates would help access and deliver the right information to the right person (user) because information is most useful when it is delivered to the right person at the right time (See Saylor et al., column 1, lines 24-27).

As to claim 22, Zimmer et al., as modified, wherein distributing the alerts information alert to the intended recipients using the information provided by via templates includes, for each recipient, accessing contact and schedule information stored for each recipient, converting the information alert to the appropriate format based on the contact and schedule information, and delivering the information alert via a medium specified by the contact and schedule information (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 8, lines 15-24; column 28, lines 50-53; also see Saylor et al., column 15, lines 53-64; column 17, lines 61-67; column 18, lines 1-10).

As to claim 23, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein distributing the information alert to the intended recipients includes delivering the information alert via a telephone network to all recipients in a geographic area (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 4, lines 18-36).

As to claim 24, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein distributing the information alert to the intended recipients includes parsing the information alert based on recipient certificate levels and selectively delivering portions of the information alert to the intended recipients based on individual end user certificate levels (See Zimmer et

al., abstract; column 1, lines 16-45; column 4, lines 18-46; also see Saylor et al., column 14, lines 1-22).

As to claim 25, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches determining whether receipt confirmation is required from each recipient, and, in response to determining that receipt confirmation is required, resending the information alert if receipt confirmation is not received within a predetermined time period. (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 14, lines 25-50).

As to claim 29, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein the event information includes an event identifier for allowing a user to inform the logic kernel of the occurrence of the event (See Zimmer et al., abstract).

As to claim 30 and 34, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein the event information includes information generated by a machine in response to the occurrence of the event (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 11, lines 28-49).

As to claim 31, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein the knowledge switch configurator is adapted to allow the administrator to configure the logic kernel regarding input expected from the intended recipients in response to the directive (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 11, lines 10-27).

As to claims 32, 36 and 40, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein the event comprises an airport security event (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 1, lines 11-45; column 10, line 63).

As to claim 33, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein the event information includes an event identifier for allowing a user to inform the first knowledge switches of the occurrence of the event (See Zimmer et al., abstract).

As to claim 35, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein the second knowledge switches are configured to expect predetermined input from the intended recipients in response to the directives (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 1, lines 5-45, lines 59-67; column 2, lines 1-15; column 4, lines 18-46).

As to claim 37, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein the event information includes an event identifier for allowing a user to communicate the occurrence of the event to a knowledge switch (See Zimmer et al., abstract).

As to claim 38, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein the event information includes information generated by a machine in response to the occurrence of the event (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 1, lines 5-45, lines 59-67; column 2, lines 1-15; column 4, lines 18-46).

As to claim 39, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches configuring a knowledge switch to input from the intended recipients in response to the expect predetermined directive (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 1, lines 5-45, lines 59-67; column 2, lines 1-15; column 4, lines 18-46).

4. Claim 3, is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zimmer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,816,878) in view of Saylor et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,501,832), as applied to claims 1-2, 4-11, 14-17, 22-25 and 29-40 above, and further in view of Austin (U.S. Patent No. 6,157,924).

As to claim 3, Zimmer et al. as modified, as modified, still does not teach wherein the profile module stores media portals defined by end users.

Austin teaches systems, methods, and computer program products for delivering information in a preferred medium (See Abstract), in which she teaches wherein the profiles module stores media portals defined by end users (See Abstract; column 2, lines 30-49).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. as modified, to include wherein the profile module stores media portals defined by end users.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. as modified, by the teachings of Austin because wherein the profile module stores media portals defined by end users,

would allow a customer (or user) to designate what type of delivery medium (or media) he/she is to receive information in (See Austin column 3, lines 46-50).

5. Claims 12-13, 18-21 and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zimmer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,816,878) in view of Saylor et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,501,832), as applied to claims 1-2, 4-11, 14-17, 22-25 and 29-40 above, and further in view of Gatto (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0184131 A1).

As to claim 12, Zimmer et al. as modified, still does not teach, comprising an intra-agency knowledge switch management template associated with the knowledge switch confinurator the intra-agency knowledge switch management template comprising an interface for configuring the logic kernel to distribute information alerts to predetermined individuals within an organization

Gatto teaches security analyst estimates performance viewing system and method (See Abstract), in which he teaches comprising an intra-agency knowledge switch management template associated with the knowledge switch confinurator the intra-agency knowledge switch management template comprising an interface for configuring the logic kernel to distribute information alerts to predetermined individuals within an organization (See page 16, paragraphs [0202] and [0203]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. as modified, to include comprising an intra-agency knowledge switch management template associated

with the knowledge switch confinurator the intra-agency knowledge switch management template comprising an interface for configuring the logic kernel to distribute information alerts to predetermined individuals within an organization

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Zimmer et al. as modified, by the teachings of Gatto because comprising an intra-agency knowledge switch management template associated with the knowledge switch confinurator the intra-agency knowledge switch management template comprising an interface for configuring the logic kernel to distribute information alerts to predetermined individuals within an organization would enable the system to inform or remind users of important occurrences or conditions pertaining to the specific information they are looking for, or have flagged, for the future need.

As to claim 13, Zimmer et al. as modified, teaches, an inter-agency knowledge switch management template associated with the knowledge switch confinurator, the inter-agency knowledge switch management template comprising an interface for configuring the logic kernel to distribute different information alerts to different groups of individuals (See Gatto, page 16, paragraphs [0202] and [0203]).

As to claim 18, Zimmer et al. as modified, teaches wherein presenting the user with a plurality of templates includes presenting the user with a plurality of templates via a computer network interface (See Gatto, page 16, paragraphs [0202] and [0203]).

As to claim 19, Zimmer et al. as modified, teaches wherein receiving event definition information and content includes receiving access information, user information, and triggered alert information via an event template (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 4, lines 18-46; also see Gatto, page 16, paragraphs [0202] and [0203]).

As to claim 20, Zimmer et al. as modified, wherein the access information includes spoken commands for communicating an event to a knowledge switch via a mobile or landline telephone, the user information includes the directive and the triggered alerts information includes an alert massage to be included in the information alert (See Zimmer et al., abstract; Saylor et al., column 14, lines 1-22; also see Gatto, page 16, paragraphs [0202] and [0203]).

As to claim 21, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches wherein receiving contact and schedule information includes receiving contact information from intended recipients via a contact list template that includes fields for allowing each recipient to input contact information and receiving schedule information via a schedule template including a graphical schedule interface that allows each recipient to associate contact information with the schedule information (See Saylor et al., column 15, lines 53-64; column 17, lines 61-67; column 18, lines 1-10; also see Gatto, page 16, paragraphs [0202] and [0203]).

As to claim 26, Zimmer et al., as modified, determining whether a response is required from each recipient, the response is required, resending the information alert if the response is not received within a predetermined time period and, in response to determining that the response is required, resending the information alert if the response is not received within a predetermined time period (See Zimmer et al., abstract; column 1, lines 16-45; column 4, lines 18-46 Gatto, page 16, paragraph [0202] and [0203]; and also see page 27, paragraph [0296]).

As to claim 27, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches including an authentication portion in the information alert for allowing the intended recipients to authenticate the ' information alert (See Saylor et al., column 22, lines 36-40, lines 45-56; also see Gatto, page 16, paragraph [0202]).

As to claim 28, Zimmer et al., as modified, teaches receiving input from the intended recipients for storing the alerts information alert in a predetermined format, and, in response, storing the alerts information alert for later access by the intended recipients (See Gatto, page 16, paragraph [0202] and [0203]; and also see page 27, paragraph [0296]).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed on June 8, 2004, for the application filed 14-December-2001, with respect to the rejected claims in view of the cited references have been fully considered but they are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mellissa M Chojnacki whose telephone number is (571) 272-4076. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on (571) 272-4083. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mmc
December 10, 2004

SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER